Among the Purposes of Jihad

Allah's Shari'ah contains an abundance of wisdom, some of it the people know, and some only He knows, and if the believers knew about it they would answer and not hesitate even if some of the worships are difficult to do, though still possible. The worship of jihad was of those worships which many people do not know the wisdom behind, and the goods that it brings, but Allah commanded His worshipers to do jihad because it is a worship that is irreplaceable, and due to the goals that cannot be achieved without jihad.

Many verses of jihad end with a sign to an absent good people do not know. Allah said: "Fighting is ordained for you, even though you dislike it. But it may be that you dislike something while it is good for you, and it may be that you like something while it is bad for you. Allah knows, and you do not know" (Al-Baqara: 216). Ibn Kathir said: "That is, He knows what things come down to more than you, and He knows what is best for your livelihood and akhira, so answer to Him, and follow His commands, so you might become aware." And Allah said: "Mobilize, light or heavy, and strive with your possessions and your lives in the cause of Allah. That is better for you, if you only knew" (At-Tawba: 41). He also said: "O you who believe! Shall I inform you of a trade that will save you from a painful torment? That you believe in Allah and His Messenger, and strive in the cause of Allah with your possessions and yourselves. That is best for you, if you only knew" (As-Saff: -10 11).

Allah has shown us some wisdom behind jihad so it would be a motive for us to honor this worship and accomplish it and make it a priority and not disregard or neglect it.

One of the greatest benefits of jihad is knowing who are the true sincere believers from the frauds, so Allah would know the honest and the liars, and knows who does what he says and who breaks his promises. The claim of having faith in Allah and sticking to His ruling and His Shari'ah is not truly sincere until one sacrifices for that sake his most precious self or belongings. Allah said: "And We sent down iron, in which is violent force, and benefits for humanity. That Allah may know who supports Him and His messengers invisibly. Allah is Strong and Powerful". Ibn Kathir said: "That is, he whose intention in carrying weapons is to support Allah and His Messenger. And His words 'Allah is Strong and Powerful,' means He is strong, and supports who supports Him without needing anyone's support, but He ordered jihad so He would test you with each other."

With jihad, the true religion of Allah is shown. That is because the people of kufr will never be pleased with Allah's religion nor with His followers to have ruling over the earth, especially in our time where everyone who rules works hard on disabling some of Allah's Shari'ah so the east and the west are happy with them. If not by jihad, then how will Allah's Shari'ah be established? And how will Allah's religion be revealed in its truth? Allah is the Most Wise.

With jihad, people are guided to what they were created for. The imams of kufr are trying to come between the religion of Allah and the worshipers because of their greed in their interests and livelihood. So jihad was put to dethrone them in order for Allah's religion to reach His creation. How many sleeping nations were awakened by jihad? When they used to live like beasts and cattle, as if they were created with no purpose, nothing woke them up more than jihad for the sake of Allah. We can take example from the conquests of Muslims towards China in the east and towards Andalus until the south of France in the west, till major parts of Russia in the north until the borders of Vienna to Africa in the south, where Allah was glorified in those lands and the kuffar were beheaded until large numbers of people started worshiping Allah, which they were created for. Allah said: "Allah redeems whomever He wills" (At-Tawba: 15). Many people were mistaken be it intentionally or not, that most of those who turned to Islam did so because of the da'wah of merchants! Whoever contemplated the conquests in the first 100 years after Hijrah, where the knights of the conquerors surpassed Andalus, would wonder about all these lies from those who aim to make less of jihad, which they consider as blocking the path of Allah and showing Islam in a bad image - the same Islam which came to us over the skulls of the prior conquerors, may Allah be pleased with them.

With jihad, the religion is protected from being stabbed or deviated or disabled. If the land is not ruled by Allah's Shari'ah, the liars will spread their lies and deviate the religion like the deviation of Shura to democracy, and disable Allah's punishments, claiming that they are not valid in our time! And stab at Allah's rulings and what our religion told us about unseen matters and mock it. Those souls can only be satisfied by taking them and silencing their breaths. Allah said, inciting His worshipers to kill the aforementioned: "But if they violate their oaths after their pledge, and attack your religion, then fight the leaders of disbelief—they have no faith—so that they may desist" (At-Tawbah: 12).

With jihad, the Muslim feels safe for himself and belongings and dignity. That is why killing is spread among Muslims and their dignity is taken whenever jihad for the sake of Allah is abandoned. The current state of Muslims is obvious for everyone to see all the torture they are enduring. On the other hand, the draining of the crusaders and their murtaddin allies through jihad is what prevented lots of Muslim blood from being spilled, which filled the lands in the previous decades. West and Central Africa is only one example. The continuity of jihad enables Muslim to push away the aggression of their enemies. Allah said: "Were it not for Allah restraining the people, some by means of others, the earth would have gone to ruin. But Allah is gracious towards mankind" (Al-Baqarah: 251).

With jihad, Allah opens for His worshipers and believers the doors of Rizq and graces, so life comes to them bowing down. And if they dropped jihad for their livelihood, farming and herding cattle, and being busy in jobs and this rubble, they become weak and humiliated, and their enemy will take their fortunes while they are watching. Today, the lands of Muslims are the richest in the world with all their treasures, and their people are the poorest in the world, because the goods of their land are taken to the land of their enemies the Crusaders. That is a punishment from Allah for leaving jihad, and so they were rewarded with the opposite. When they left jihad in favor of the material world, they were doomed to misery and only received a fraction of Rizq. The Prophet ﷺ said: "If you sell anything on credit to anyone, on the condition that you will buy it back for a lower price (al-'Einah), take hold of the tails of cattle, become pleased with agriculture and give up Jihad - Allah will make disgrace prevail over you and will not remove it from you till you return to your religion." [Abu Dawud]

With jihad, the kuffar who oppose Allah and hurt His worshipers are humiliated, Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "The killing of the kuffar by the believers is most humiliating to the kuffar, and heals the hearts of the believers. Allah said to the believers of this Ummah: 'Fight them. Allah will punish them at your hands, and humiliate them, and help you against them, and heal the hearts of a believing people' (At-Tawbah: 14). This is why the killing of Quraysh's major members by the hands of their enemies which they look down on, was more damaging to them and healing for the chests of the party of faith, and the killing of Abu Jahl in the battle was more humiliating for him than to die on his bed or with another cause."

These and other goods that come with jihad, many were deprived from it without them realizing it, while the mujahidin are living in the shade of these returns, thanking the graces of their Lord, and all praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all creation.